

Amendments to the Claims

Amend claims 9, 19, 20, 23 and 24.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (withdrawn) A method for providing a storage arrangement that indicates the presence of oxygen comprising:
 - a. placing an oxygen-sensitive material inside a sealable container;
 - b. evacuating air from the sealable container and sealing the sealable container to isolate the oxygen-sensitive material from oxygen; and,
 - c. irradiating the sealable container with an effective amount of radiation to activate the oxygen-sensitive material such that the oxygen-sensitive material will undergo a visual change in the presence of oxygen after the oxygen-sensitive material has been irradiated, the visual change providing an indication of the presence of oxygen inside the sealable container.

2. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of evacuating the air from the sealable container is performed in a vacuum.

3. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of evacuating the air from the sealable container is performed in a non-oxygen gaseous environment.

4. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of irradiating the sealable container involves using gamma radiation to activate the oxygen-sensitive material and to sterilize the sealable container and any contents thereof.

5. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material is a plastic material comprising a portion of a medical device, and wherein the sealable container is a sterile medical container, and wherein the step of placing the oxygen-sensitive material inside the sealable container is accomplished by placing the medical device inside the sterile medical container such that the medical device undergoes no visual change until the sterile medical container is opened as long as no significant amount of oxygen is present in the sterile medical container prior to the sterile medical container being opened.

6. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material indicates a failure of the sealable container.

7. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material occurs within 8 hours after exposure to a significant amount of oxygen.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material occurs within 1-2 hours after exposure to the significant amount of oxygen.

9. (currently amended) A storage arrangement for oxygen-sensitive products including provision for indicating the presence of oxygen comprising:

- a. a sealable container that isolates contents of the sealable container from ambient atmosphere when sealed;
- b. oxygen-sensitive product located within the sealable container;
- c. an oxygen-sensitive material located within the sealable container, the oxygen-sensitive material being ~~a material that undergoes a visual change when in contact with oxygen once the oxygen-sensitive material has been irradiated after the sealable container has been sealed to activate the oxygen-sensitive material~~ inactive prior to exposure to radiation and activatable by exposure to radiation, the activation of the oxygen-sensitive material causing the oxygen-sensitive material to become sensitive to oxygen exposure only after activation and to remain sensitive to oxygen exposure after completion of radiation exposure and to undergo a visual change in response to subsequent contact with oxygen; and,
- d. the oxygen-sensitive material being distinct from the oxygen-sensitive product.

10. (withdrawn) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material comprises at least a portion of a medical device located within the sealable container such that the medical device itself is an oxygen indicator.

11. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material comprises a piece of oxygen-sensitive material fixed inside the sealable container and separate from any other contents of the sealable container.

12. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material indicates a failure of the sealable container.

13. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material is an oxygen-sensitive polymeric composition.

14. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 13, wherein the oxygen-sensitive polymeric composition is a polycarbonate composition activated by an effective amount of gamma radiation.

15. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 14, wherein the effective amount of gamma radiation is from about 25 Kilograys to about 45 Kilograys.

16. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the sealable container comprises:

- a. a gas-impermeable foil pouch; and,
- b. a cardboard protective packaging for the foil pouch.

17. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 16, wherein the gas-impermeable foil pouch is a multi-layer package comprising:

- a. a silicone oxide treated PET layer;
- b. a foil layer;
- c. a biaxially oriented nylon layer; and,
- d. a polyethylene layer.

18. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material is formed as a generally planar chip of oxygen-sensitive material and is operably positioned adjacent to a backing material such that a combination of the backing material and the planar chip of oxygen-sensitive material increases effective visibility of the visual change in the oxygen-sensitive material over visibility of visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material alone.

19. (currently amended) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material undergoes the visual change within 8 hours after exposure to a significant amount of oxygen after sterilization completion of radiation exposure.

20. (currently amended) The storage arrangement of claim 19, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material undergoes the visual change within 1-2 hours after exposure to the significant amount of oxygen after sterilization completion of radiation exposure.

21. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the contents of the sealable container include contents selected from the set consisting of a medical device, a pharmaceutical, a food product, and any combination thereof.

22. (previously presented) The storage arrangement of claim 9, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material is arranged to form at least one symbol that assists in interpreting the visual change of the oxygen-sensitive material.

23. (currently amended) A storage arrangement for oxygen-sensitive products including provision for indicating the presence of oxygen comprising:

- a. a sealable container that isolates contents of the sealable container from ambient atmosphere when sealed;
- b. oxygen-sensitive product located within the sealable container;
- c. an initially oxygen-poor atmosphere located within the sealable container;
- d. an oxygen-sensitive material located within the sealable container, the oxygen-sensitive material being a material that undergoes a visual change when in contact with oxygen to reveal the presence of oxygen in the initially oxygen-poor atmosphere subsequent to irradiation; and,
- e. the oxygen-sensitive material being distinct from the oxygen-sensitive product.

24. (currently amended) The storage arrangement of claim 23, wherein the oxygen-sensitive material becomes oxygen-sensitive as a result of irradiation, and remains oxygen-sensitive after completion of radiation exposure.